Training of serving Pilots of IA/AI

621. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any provisions of sending the serving pilots of the Air India, Indian Airlines and Alliance Air for advanced training;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether pilots receive training on flight simulators of the aircrafts that they are presently flying;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) it not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The airlines impart training to their pilots in accordance with the procedures laid down by the manufactures and approved by DGCA. Air India and Indian Airlines have in-house advance training infrastructure to train their pilots. Therefore, the airlines do not need to send them out for training. However, at the time of induction of a new aircraft, the airlines have to send its pilots for advance training to aircraft manufacturers or to other airlines to get their lincences endorsed on the new type.

(c) and (d) Pilots receive training regularly on the Flight Simulators of the aircraft flown by them, if available, for the purpose of intial endorsement and re-current training.

(e) Does not arise.

Upgradation of airports in Rajasthan

622. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering for upgrading the airports in a phased manner of all major cities in Rajasthan which cater to international tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when such upgrading of airports would take place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) At Jaipur airport, the works of extension and resurfacing of runway, extension and resurfacing of existing apron and construction of Isolation Bay are in progress and are likely to be completed by April, 2003.

At Udaipur Airport Airports Authority of India (AAI) has plans to construct a new terminal building, a new apron, a new taxiway, car park area etc.

At Jodhpur airport, AAI has plans to extend civil apron and widen taxi track.

At Jaiselmer Airport, AAI has plans to construct a new enclave, a new terminal building, a new civil apron, a new link taxiways etc.

No scheduled flights operate through Kota and Bikaner Airports, and hence AAI has no plan to develop these airports. Remaining airports/ airstrips in Rajasthan do not belong to AAI.

Upgradation of Bagdogra Airport

623. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bagdogra Airport it the only airport in the region which caters to the needs of the people visiting Sikkim;

(b) whether it is also a fact that if this airport is brought to the International standard it would attract flights from adjoining countries like Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh as result of which flow of international tourists to this part of the country would enhance; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) Badgora Airport which provides air-connectivity for Sikkim, belongs to the Ministry of Defence, where Airports Authority of India (AAI) maintains a civil enclave. The Civil Enclave has a new terminal building with all modern passenger facilities, to cater 500 passengers at a time. Customs and Immigration